

## MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order on Wednesday, February 4, 2004, at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Pete Bogle in the Council Chambers, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

**Present:** Barbara Perry, Pete Bogle, Bruce Wilson, James Donaldson, Johnny Safrit, Preston Sale, Cindee Bridges, Michael Lippard, Suzette Davis and Bill Safrit

**Absent:** Emma Jean Hawley

**Staff:** Lynn Raker, Janice Bodford

The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Reviewed and approved the financial report for January.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Art in Public Places:** Bruce reported on the success of the angels project. Questions have been raised about why the Lutheran Church (St. John's) got to have the angels and others did not. Bill explained that at the downtown decorating committee meeting, which he is a member of, they had four angels left over from the Gateway and no place to put them. Bill then offered St. John's as a location for them. The committee agreed. The church installed the poles just like the ones at the Gateway. The plan next year is to give the other churches the opportunity to have some of the angels. If a picture is available of the ones displayed at St. John's it could be used to enlist other churches for next year. Bill noted that St. John's plans to display three crosses on these poles during the Easter season. Bruce suggested the CAC make a recommendation to DSI that the angels be displayed for an extended time after Christmas.

The Art in History Walk committee will be meeting again soon, but nothing to report at this time.

**Neighborhoods & Education Committee:** James read a letter dealing with a meeting that was held by the Salisbury Planning Board for the Jersey City property owners regarding the re-zoning of Frierich Foods property at West Kerr Street. There is nothing they could do as far as existing businesses are concerned. A letter was received following that meeting from Mr. Frierich stating that they share their concern for the safety of children playing near Kerr Street and employees, vendors and customers have been urged to drive slowly. They fully support the suggestions of lowering the speed limit on W Kerr St. and the installation of speed bumps to curb the problem.

Recognizing that these solutions do come at an expense to the City of Salisbury, Frierich is offering \$5,000 towards the installation of permanent speed bumps and signage on W Kerr St. Funds will be made payable to the City after the completion of the work. Another letter was written to James personally about the signage and what was being done about trucks coming in and out of that area parking around 3-4:00 a.m. when no businesses are open. The large trucks can also destroy property such as breaking off curbing and pavement. James plans to write another letter expressing the idea that trucks go down Best Street and maybe open that back gate. There are no curbs there. Johnny said that (the truckers) do that to get a few hours sleep before they have to unload. That creates a bad situation because of the loud compressors that they keep running on the trucks. Barbara asked if they could do that in the city limits in a residential area. The only ordinance that would be close is the noise ordinance. The City would install the speed bumps, but the money is usually paid up front. The safety of the children at the daycare is not as much of an issue, because once they arrive there they play in the fenced area behind the daycare. James will share the letter from Mr. Frierich with Dan Mikkelson. Suggestions were made for possible solutions, such as access to the back gate for trucks through either a coded gate or a manned gate.

It was suggested that we have another meeting with the neighborhood leaders before the Spring Spruce-up. We can work on this as soon as the Awards luncheon is over and invite them to our March or April meeting. The list of leaders also needs to be updated. Lynn will find out the dates of the Spring Spruce-up.

James also asked about the plans for the old Rusher Tire Building. There have been some environmental issues there and the land has to be tested periodically for contamination of ground water issues. Lynn will try to find out about the status of this.

**Landscaping:** Johnny talked with Darrell Blackwelder and asked him if the Master Gardeners would be willing to take over the maintenance of the Lincolnton pocket park area as a part of the West End Park which is very close. Darrell has just lost five of his top volunteers. He wanted to look at it first and said he would get back with us later. Bruce reported that Dr. Eagle needed a schedule and a plan in order for Salisbury High students to do this as a community service project. They also would need supervision and would not be able to do any spraying. Lynn reported that we would be getting trees along there too. Lynn will write a thank you letter to the intercivic group and inform them of the installation of the pocket park.

**Municipal Service District and Innes Street Improvement Grants:** A meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at noon to review new applications. Bill Safrit was placed on the Innes Street Grant committee.

**Awards Committee:** Reviewed all of the member's attendance for the Awards Luncheon on the 12th. Barbara announced that anyone who would like to help in anyway to just let her know. Liz Goodman from the Tree Board and Barbara will be doing the cooking. They will be setting up and decorating starting at 9:00 am and will need help with serving and clearing the tables after the meal. There will be two kinds of soup, tomato bisque and turkey chowder, and spinach salad with fruit. We have ordered the cakes and Morgan's will do the coffee and Santos the tea. Everything has been done; it is a matter of actually setting up. It is the first time we have done

everything ourselves. So far we have over 50 people coming. Any winners that have not responded will be contacted to make sure they are coming. Steve Fisher will be the speaker.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Johnny asked for clarification of the Landscape nomination of South Main Business Park. It is the industrial building with a brick façade on the left side on S Main before Jake Alexander. The address is 1935 S Main Street.

Suzette announced that Livingstone is having an open house tomorrow for the Old Hood Building in conjunction with the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the college and she wanted to nominate it. Lynn noted that the awards committee had looked at this building for an award this year, but at the time of the cut off it was still under construction. It will be added to the Landscape nominations for the spring. Livingstone will also be renovating the Monroe Street School. They are waiting for a response from the nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Bruce asked as a downtown merchant about the maintenance of sidewalks during the last snow and ice storm. Several people fell during that storm. The City puts down salt, but the merchants clear their own sidewalk area in front of their property. This was a very dangerous storm this time. The City also cleared some areas at the crosswalks of intersections.

Barbara expressed thanks to Lynn for all the hard work she does, not only with the CAC, but with the Art in public places, Historic Preservation Commission and her own job in the Planning Department. The CAC commended Lynn and Janice for all they do.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.